

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-05 AS-01 /064 R

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S/S -PSHANKLE

EUR/RPM:JMARESCA

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P R 180023Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 272409

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, WB

SUBJECT: NATO MINISTERIAL: COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON
BERLIN AND GERMANY

REF: A.) STATE 271460 B.) BONN 18733 C.) BONN 18660
D.) NATO 6226

1. DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO PROVIDING FULL TEXT OF
BERLIN AND GERMANY LANGUAGE TO OTHER ALLIES, WITH CAVEAT
THAT IT HAS BEEN AGREED AD REFERENDUM, PENDING FINAL
APPROVAL IN BRUSSELS. SINCE QUADRIpartite MINISTERIAL
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MEETING WILL BE TAKING PLACE AFTER DRAFTING OF COMMUNIQUE

HAS BEEN COMPLETED, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO REFER TO FINAL APPROVAL BY MINISTERS AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 3 OF REF (B). IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT DEPARTMENT SUGGESTED REFERENCE TO NEED FOR APPROVAL BY QUOTE SENIOR OFFICIALS UNQUOTE (PARA 3, REF (A)).

2. FOUR POWER REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BERLIN AND GERMANY LANGUAGE IN BRUSSELS IS PRINCIPLE WHICH DEPARTMENT WISHES TO MAINTAIN. OUR GOAL IS NOT TO GIVE ARTIFICIAL SUBSTANCE TO QUADRIPARTITE GATHERINGS IN BRUSSELS, BUT RATHER TO PROTECT THE PRIMACY OF THE BONN GROUP MEMBERS IN

FORMULATION OF WESTERN POLICY ON GERMANY AND BERLIN. WERE THE COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE TO BE OPENED TO GENERAL COMMENT IN THE ALLIANCE, THE POTENTIAL FOR DISAGREEMENT AND EVEN CONFLICT WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE. BONN GROUP COUNTRIES HAVE TAKEN PAINS IN THE PAST TO BRIEF OTHER NATO MEMBERS FULLY ON BERLIN AND GERMANY ISSUES AND WE HOPE THIS PRACTICE WILL CONTINUE. BUT WE CANNOT AGREE THAT LANGUAGE ON BERLIN AND GERMAN POLICY SHOULD BE A MATTER FOR OPEN NEGOTIATION IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER PARTS OF THE COMMUNIQUE.

3. FOR THIS REASON, WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE IDEA THAT A BRIEFING BE PROVIDED TO OTHER ALLIES ON BERLIN (REF (C)). GIVEN THE FULL SCHEDULE DURING MINISTERIAL, WE AGREE THIS BRIEFING SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE NAC. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, TEXT, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, COMMUNIQUE, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE272409
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCKORNBLUM:KP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750400-0572
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751136/aaaabfrm.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 271460, 75 BONN 18733, 75 BONN 18660
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO MINISTERIAL: COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON BERLIN AND GERMANY
TAGS: PFOR, WB, NATO
To: BONN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006